

# Neopit Annual Drinking Water Report

## Is my water safe?

Last year, we conducted tests for over 80 contaminants. We only detected 9 of those contaminants, and found only 1 at a level higher than the EPA allows. As we told you at the time, our water temporarily exceeded drinking water standards. (For more information see the section labeled Violations at the end of the report.) This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

## Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate measures to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

## Where does my water come from?

Your Tribal water supply originates as water beneath the surface of the earth. This is called groundwater. Groundwater is naturally filtered as it travels through soils and rocks. Our Tribe has two wells located on North 2nd Ave. which pumps this water back to the surface of the earth so we may drink it.

## Source water assessment and its availability

The Source Water Assessment is posted and available at the Menominee Tribal Utility

## Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity:

microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled

water which must provide the same protection for public health.

### How can I get involved?

We Encourage you to get involved in Tribal water issues. Please join us for our monthly meetings, held the second Tuesday of the month at the Menominee Tribal Boardroom located in the Menominee Tribal Office. We also invite you to **call** us at any time.

### Lead & copper rule violations

The Tribe is going to replace the wells and wellhouse-Some new water mains to be installed.The copper violations will be addressed at this time.

## Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses health **risk**. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table **is** from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL,	Your	Range		Sample	Violation	Typical Source
	or	TT, or		Low	High			
	MRDLG	MRDL	r			Date		
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfection By-Products</b>								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)								
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	50	2.44	NA		2006	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.03	NA		2006	No	Discharge of drilling waste; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.77	NA		2006	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0.63	NA		2006	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	3.9	NA		2003	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	0.8	NA		2003	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	1.7	2004	2	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosive natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0.26	2004	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosive natural deposits

## Undetected Contaminants

The following contaminants were monitored for, but not detected, in your water.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Your Water	Violation	Typical Source
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfection By-Products</b>					
Haloacetic Acids (HAAs) (ppb)	NA	60	ND	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.
Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or <i>expected</i> risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State <b>Assigned</b> Maximum Permissible Level

**Violations and Exceedances****Copper - action level at consumer taps**

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relative short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor. Sampled on 9/15/2004. EPA required water quality samples and source water samples to be taken by December 18, 2004. Samples for water quality taken on 12/27/2004, and source water taken on 1/19/2005. A corrosion control plan was to be in place by 2006. The Tribe has gotten a USDA grant and loan to replace the wells, wellhouse and piping to upgrade the system. This will start in 2007 and finish up in 2010.

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